## No more broken docs: Keep docs accurate with Doc Detective

Jake Cahill, Redpanda Data linkedin.com/in/jake-cahill

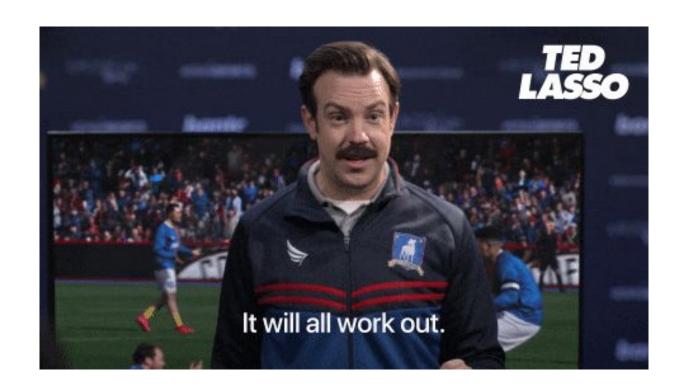
Ariel Kaiser, Semarchy linkedin.com/in/resiaka



## Something always breaks

(And it's not your cat's fault)

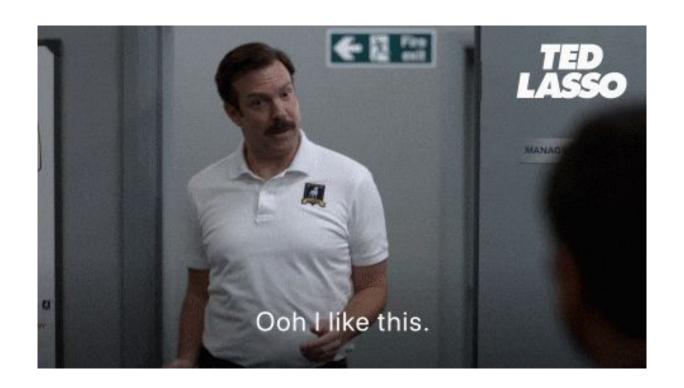


















"When you're ready to get started, click **Begin**."

**BEGIN** 

"When you're ready to get started, click **Begin**."

**START** 



# Challenges in keeping docs in sync

# Consequences of broken docs

- Frequent product updates
- Shared responsibility
- Lack of knowledge of what's in docs

- User frustration
- Increased support overhead
- Decreased user retention and satisfaction



### Docs as Tests



#### What is Docs as Tests?

A tool-agnostic strategy that keeps your docs in sync with your product.



#### Tooling (by difficulty for the average writer)

#### **Novice**

Easy to use.

Minimal barrier of entry.

#### Intermediate

Some learning curve.





# **Advanced** Engineering-level testing and automation tooling.



#### Cypress

```
describe('Kitten search', () => {
  it('Navigates to DuckDuckGo, searches, and saves a screenshot', () => {
      cy.visit('https://www.duckduckgo.com');
      cy.url().should('include', 'duckduckgo.com');
      cy.get('#searchbox input').should('be.visible');
      cy.get('#searchbox input').type('American Shorthair kittens{enter}');
      cy.get('[data-testid="web-vertical"]').should('be.visible');
      cy.screenshot('search-results', {capture: 'viewport'});
```



#### Playwright

```
test.describe('Kitten search', () => {
  test('Navigates to DuckDuckGo, searches, and saves a screenshot', async ({ page }) => {
    await page.goto('https://www.duckduckgo.com');
    await expect(page).toHaveURL(/duckduckgo\.com/);
    const searchInput = await page.locator('#searchbox input');
    await expect(searchInput).toBeVisible();
    await searchInput.fill('American Shorthair kittens');
    await searchInput.press('Enter');
    const resultsSelector = '[data-testid="web-vertical"]';
    await expect(page.locator(resultsSelector)).toBeVisible();
    await page.screenshot({ path: 'search-results.png', fullPage: false });
```



## **Doc Detective**



#### Gentle words of caution

- Test actions are real actions
- Clean up what you create
- Test against your data, not user data



## Resources

Docs as Tests



docsastests.com

**Doc Detective** 



doc-detective.com

Doc Detective on Discord



discord.gg/2M7wXEThfF